INNOVATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS OF THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY'S WESTERN REGION


As the Nation's leading earth science research agency, the United States Geological Survey is in an advantageous position to contribute to the advancement of earth science education. The Survey has, in fact, been involved with education to varying degrees for more than 100 years, and the past several years have brought an additional surge in educational efforts. What has evolved over the years is a loosely structured, multifaceted program that continues to grow and change. Contrary to popular opinion about the rigidity and lack of flexibility of government bureaucracies, it is precisely the flexibility of the Survey that has contributed to the success of its efforts. Using science records and background information, nearly all of the Survey's educational services and activities are closely tied to the talents and interests of the individuals involved. The Survey has very few nationally oriented educational programs; however, its publications and the Teacher's Packet are available to educators nationwide. Moreover, many local projects and programs are ongoing across the U.S., and the focus of these programs varies greatly in different regions. The Western Region Education Program has many components, including:

1) Inservice and preservice teacher training and workshops
2) Classroom visits by

Coillerdale Section 29